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WATAN!



FEELINGS ABOUT DICK GREGORY
by ESTHER DOSS

Editor

Last Tuesday, February 16, we had the rare opportunity to listen to the words of one of the most honest men in America, Mr. Dick Gregory. He was comical, truthful, and never lacking the morality and ethics he asked of us as young people. The old cliché that you can't trust anyone over 30 is irrelevant in the case of this 38-year old Black man. His honesty, personal fortitude and immense concern for all humanity gave me the hope and extra strength to keep fighting for what I believe in.

Some of his critics consider him to be egotistical, I consider him to be a firm example of the type of Black man who is confident in who he is and who makes no compromises with an "oppressive and morally degenerate, criminal society."

His words ran home to me the full reality and depth of degeneracy this country has fallen into. He told us that the old folks left us a horrible mess to clear up and as I looked around I saw non-believing white faces that frowned at his hilarious monologue on the New Niggers - I asked myself if the long hairs - America's new niggers - were willing to jump down off that privileged horse of white society and begin to fight, really fight the way Blacks have had to fight for

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"INFRO"

The blessing of the struggle is with us. All power to the people as we become of age. Keep on struggling sisters and brothers for the battle is far from being won. But we, in consistency, will survive.

RES'

CONNIE'S SOUL KORNER

Today in Connie's Korner, let's talk a little about Angela Davis. As many of us know, Angela was caught by the FBI on charges of being part of a murder and kidnapping. Speculation was that Angela purchased the weapons used in the kidnapping and murder on August 7, 1970 in Merian County Calif. But many of us know Angela wasn't present on that date. The state of California is inconsistent in that they didn't indict the purchaser of the gun that was used in the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy. Why was Angela indicted for the weapons and not the other party in the killing of Kennedy? This is a question many of us are asking and haven't gotten answers.

Taken into custody, when Angela was caught, was a friend, David Poindexter of Chicago, described by the media as a "mystery man." Poindexter, in an article in Ramparts, said, "Why am I a mystery man all of a sudden?" "The FBI has visited me for years and the Chicago Police knew me well enough to watch me when presidents came to Chicago." The media blew this as well as other facts out of proportion. As Charlene Mitchell said in Ramparts "There are some who view Angela's Communist Party membership as a barrier to their support for her. They don't see that Nixon and Reagan don't care whether anti-communism originates from the left or the right, as long as it continues to divide the people. They don't care how they murder Angela, as long as she is murdered. Our job is to save her. Anything that blocks that must be rejected."

I'm asking the brothers and sisters and everyone that's with us to take this into consideration. Support the Free Angela Movement. Get up and do something.

-FREE ANGELA-

*****RIGHT-ON*****

Feelings About Dick Gregory

cont'd from page 1

hundreds of years. I wondered if they would be able to leave the drugs and denounce the racism that we Blacks already know to be the reasons for the genocide of this nation's young.

I felt proud of each and every one of my Black brothers who made it their job to be Brother Dick's body guards while he was here. They protected him with love and surrounded him in such a way that I think someone would have been a fool if they had tried to harm Brother Dick in any way. I think also it reflected how we feel about a man that cares and respects all of us enough to tell us the simple and honest truth about the world.

As he spoke about the CIA and the threats on his life, a cold feeling ran through my body. I understood then that the closer and closer to the truth that one reveals about the inner workings of this government, the closer one comes to the end of life. However, as I looked at Brother Gregory's face, I saw the calm bearing of a man who was not afraid. In his own words from an Ebony article, he says, "The hardest man in the world to kill is a man that's ethically honest and morally sound because he's not going out of his way to duck nothing. He carries himself in a way that scares a whole lot of people. I've looked at history and the closest they've ever come to killing a truly morally honest-to-the-nth-degree man was Socrates and he took his own poison."

This helped me to understand how Angela Davis, Huey Newton, Bobby Seale, Eldridge and Kathleen Cleaver, and so many other Black leaders both in the past and present have been able to fight for the liberation of Black people and still live life to the greatest capacity even though death stalks two steps behind.

I felt that Brother Dick was not a stranger but a man of the

people. He stated that there was hope that we could save this world with our moral force and as young people we are not so completely set in the ways of deceit that a new type of morality can rise out of us which is not phony or hypocritical or punitive but one that can possibly change a system and make it possible for us to find that New Humanity that Ulysses Doss keeps rappin' to us about. The one that will allow us to accept people as people and not by type, race, classification or whatever.

THANK'S TO OUR BROTHERS IN UNIFORM

Saturday, February 21, we the Black Students at the University of Montana had the opportunity to meet some of the brothers from Malstrom A.F.B. These were some of the finest and most generous Black folks we've met in a long time. The time we all spent together enjoying ourselves, like Black folks know how to do, was for all of us not only a refreshing change but an educational one as well. Our brothers were rappin' some heavy shit and all of us were relating to what was being said. Thank you brothers, for your generosity and for being you. Having people like yourselves to defend the Black community lets us know that we don't have a thing to worry about. Now that we know where you are and who you are, the communication will not be isolated again. race, classification or whatever.

"THANKS"

THANK'S TO OUR BROTHERS IN UNIFORM

Special thanks go out to Scott Clawson. Thanks also to Women's Lib for collecting money for Angela Davis.

Some of the finest and most generous Black folks we've met in a long time. The time we all spent together enjoying ourselves, like Black folks know how to do, was for all of us not only a refreshing change but an educational one

by CHARLES WILLIAMS

POLOTICALLY SPEAKING.....

The next victim of TRICKY DICKY'S purge program (a la Sen. Charles Goodell) could be our own Sen. Brooke of Mass., who has been critical of Noxon's policies.... Things are looking better in Washington as far as Black representation is concerned. We now have a grand total of 12 congressmen and 1 senator. That's pretty good but still not enough.... Rep. Ronald Dellums (D., Calif.) was named to the House Foreign Affairs Committee. He and Rep. Charles Diggs (D., Mich.) are making a trek to Africa this month.... The word is that the Nixon-Administration is readying a new bomb-shell in the area of race relations to further dilute the feeling that the President is anti-Black. (Good try but it won't work.)

SPORT TALK.....That Howard Clark is really looking good out there lately. This reporter thinks this is because he is getting more of that well-deserved playing time....The latest edition of Jet Magazine has a much needed article on Joe Frazier..... Look out for a rerun of the proposed strike by the Pro Football Players Association come September. The owners didn't keep their part of the bargain.....Right-On to former All-Pro Defensive End, Willie Davis, in turning down an offer to take over the head coaching job at Harvard University. He favors staying in the more lucrative business world. Incidentally, he's top man in Schlitz's L.A. operations.....The unsung hero of Muhammad Ali's return to organized boxing is Georgia State Senator Leroy Johnson....While we're talking about boxing, this reporter wonders how much of the \$2,500,000 Ali and Frazier will actually see.....

ABOUT THE STARS.....All of you L.A. people missed a sho-nuff shindig when Smokey Robinson and the Miracles, The Four Tops, and

David T-Bone Walker did a stint at the Fabulous Forum....According to the London Daily Sketch, Diana Ross and Calvin Lochart (Cotton Comes to Harlem) are two of the world's most sexiest people..... Gene Chandler recently received some good news, his song "Groovy Situation" just went over the million mark in gross sales.... The hottest new star of late, Roberta Flack was discovered by Les McCann in D.C., she is really out of sight. In the recent Newport Jazz Festival, she, a virtual unknown at the time, stole the show from the Cannonball Adderly Quintet, Herbie Mann, and Les McCann and Eddie Harris... How come the local radio station refuses to play James Brown is still a very fishy mystery.....

FROM THE MOUTHS OF THE MINORITY. ...Issac Hayes, Stax recording star, on the meaning of success, "It's a way of letting off things that have been in me for years." "I'm proud to be accepted by the Black brothers and sisters as a revolutionary in the music field.

JOKE OF THE WEEK.....What do you say to a five foot Soul Brother with a razor? Ans: Mister or Sir.

"Sister Frances Jackson Represents Us Proudly"

On February 16, 1971, ~~SS~~Sister Frances Jackson, Miss Black Studies of 1970-1971, represented us again in her quiet, regal, and queenly way at the Annual Spring Hairstyling Show held at Jekyll and Hyde's. Before Frances walked onto the catwalk of phony blondes and brunettes with out-dated clothes and plastic hairdoes were idolizing again that white beauty standard. There of us, only Blacks in the crowd, found ourselves to be incredibly bored. Then Frances walked out on the stage wearing her coronation gown which is a strapless green print accented with a gold choker, arm band, and big earrings. Her presence seemed to astound the 300 people who attended.

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BLACK IS BEST

Excerpt from Sports Illustrated with comments by Willie Thurmond

Is the Black athlete along stride better than his white counterpart? Consider what has happened since Jackie Robinson jogged out to first base at Ebbets Field:

In basketball, three of the five players named to the 1969-70 All-NBA team were Black, as were all five of the players named to the All-Rockie team. Blacks have won the league's Most Valuable Player Award 12 times in the past 13 seasons. In pro football all four rookie-of-the-year awards for offense and defense were won by Blacks. In baseball, blackmen have won the National League's MVP award 16 times out of the past 22 seasons.

Twenty-six years ago, there were no Blacks on any of the big league basketball, football, or baseball professional team rosters, though on rare occasions in the past, basketball, baseball and football had used Black players. Today there are 150 Blacks out of 600 players in major league baseball, 330 out of 1,040 in football and 153 out of 280 in basketball. Of the players on the professional leagues 1969-70 all star teams, 36% in baseball were Black, 44% in football and 63% in basketball.

It is clear that the Black community in the U.S. is not just contributing more than its share of participants to sport. It is contributing immensely more than its share of stars. Black athletes accounted for all eight Olympic records set by U.S. runners at Mexico City in 1968.

The Black athlete is more adapted to speed, and that accounts for his superiority in sports. Football, baseball, boxing, basketball, sprinting, high jumping, broadjumping--these involve speed.

The Black youngster has some-

thing real to aspire to when he picks up a baseball bat or dribbles a basketball. He has the examples of Willie Mays and Bill Russell, of Frank Robinson, Lew Alcindor and Lonzo Lewis to inspire him.

Other doors will surly open.

UNITY FOR FREEDOM

Unity must be our key to liberation. As a body of Black individuals, we must become dedicated to the cause of shackling off the yoke of oppression and strive for total freedom. We must educate ourselves to the achievements of our forefathers, and gain from them a new impetus that will spark the fires of total and complete freedom.

Untied we must stand; Tall, Black, and proud. We must find solace in our being one. Our separate ideologies must cease, for only through having a common base from which to stand can we possibly attain our most cherished virtue.

The importance of becoming one formidable force, facing odds greater now than ever before thought possible, must become our first step on the road to freedom.

Everywhere you look the white power structure of the world is doing its best to keep the oppressed separated and leaderless. The government of this country, its court system, law enforcers and the silent majority know very well the potentiality that freedom-starved people possess and are afraid.

Of the inevitable consequences that will befall the oppressor and his backers once unity is an established factor.

Live to fight oppression or die defending it.

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Frances Jackson
She was proud, barefoot, Black, and beautiful. Her Afro was shining and Frances walked with head high and with pride.

WORLD GREAT FIGURES

MATTHEW HENSON

by Pferron Doss

The year was 1909, it was 25 degrees below zero, two men, one Black, one white, stood in an arctic ice field that was just as barren, silent and deadly as any other except that if their calculations were correct, a man could stand in any direction that he chose and still be facing South. This was the North Pole-- 90 degrees north latitude. The two men were Matthew Henson and Robert Peary-- the astronauts of their time.

Matthew Henson was a self-educated, cabin boy, seaman, clerk, manservant, and a pullman car porter. Robert Peary was a graduate of Bowdoin College, engineer, draftsman, surveyor, and Commander in the United States Navy. The truth about this particular venture at the turn of the century has always been negated. The history books written give the credit of the discovery to Robert Peary. Very little has been ever mentioned about his assistant, Matt Henson. Actually if it were not for Matthew Henson, Peary would never have achieved the goal he had devoted himself to for 18 years.

Henson and Peary made 7 voyages and it was always Henson who made the efforts to gain friendly relationships with the Eskimos. They readily accepted him because of his dark skin. They assumed he was one of them but who had not bothered to learn his native language. The Eskimos taught him how to survive in the brutal ice and snow, by teaching him how to dress appropriately for the subzero weather.

Matt Henson was born in Charles County, Maryland, on August 8, 1866. He ran away from home at age 11. At 13, he decided to go to sea, and was befriended by a Captain Childs. Henson was signed on as a cabin boy, and for the next five years learned reading, history, math, and navigation.

Peary met Henson and was first signed as a manservant. This lasted only a short time for Henson showed his skills and was promoted from a valet to an assistant. Henson's promotion was of great value for he got no money. The only money Henson received was \$100 which he won from a bet which Peary said he would die first because he was from a "tropical" race.

During the seven voyages to the north, it was Henson who taught Peary the art of guiding a sled, and give the commands in Eskimo. It was Henson who negotiated the trades with the Eskimos. It was Henson who became the expert rifleman, who brought down food for starving men and dogs.

Henson, during the seven voyages, saved Peary's life twice. On the fifth expedition, Peary's feet got frozen. While taking Peary's boots off, a couple of toes snapped off. Henson bathed his feet in snow and warmed them against his stomach. When they finally reached the ship, the doctor had to amutate all of Peary's toes except for the two little ones.

The North Pole has an imaginary mathematical point of 90 degrees north latitude, the very top of the world. Peary and Henson on their last trip got to 89 degrees, 57 minutes shown by their sextant. This being their last trip and almost on the pole, someone needed to break trail and find secure ice to forge across. History has it that Peary broke trail and there by reached the North Pole first. Peary, at the time of this miraculous feat, was 53 years old and had no toes on his feet. It would have been foolish and dangerously time wasting for a man who found it difficult to walk to break trail which involved chopping ice and lifting sleds over ice cracks.

It was Henson who broke trail and was commanded by Peary to stay behind but instead went he went ahead and built an igloo and was waiting at the North Pole to shake Peary's hand when he arrived there. On the return trip home, Peary ordered Henson to stay behind and make camp, a day's march from their ship, the ROOSEVELT. This enabled Admiral Peary to break the news of the discovery of the North Pole and to receive his undeserved credit for being its first discoverer.

IS WOMEN'S LIB FOR BLACK WOMEN?

by Elvie Willis

All women are oppressed but not all women are aware of it. Women's Liberation is a movement that tries to make women aware of their oppression. However, the Black faces within the movement are very few. Is the Women's Lib Movement relevant to the Black woman? Do Black and white women have common personal and social problems?

It's a known fact that Black and White women are afflicted by sexual stereotypes and exploitations. However, there is still a discrepancy within the treatment of these two. The white woman has always been on a pedestal and has had a great deal of material goods, or at least has had the opportunity to gain these things. The Black woman on the other hand has always scrubbed the white woman's kitchen and been the mammy for her kids. And has received nothing but the Aunt Jemima and Beulah image as gratitude.

Economic survival was necessary to keep the Black family alive. White racism emasculated the Black man and alienated him from his woman by blaming her for his emasculation. The Black woman understood that her main job was to keep the family together. She continued to love the Black man despite the alienation and in the process became a new breed of woman. The Black woman has proved that she is strong and capable of doing what she feels is necessary. The Black woman understands that the luxury of boredom has made the white woman weak.

The main thing that the Black woman sees as her priority in the current movement of Blacks is to strengthen the Black male-female relationship and to base the family unit on positive Black values.

We, Black women have our work cut out for us in trying to understand the many dilemmas confronting our men. To reconcile our relationship with our men, we Black women must also look onward and we should try to be more in tune with ourselves and fight without men for the liberation of our people.

For the above reasons, I don't think Women's Lib as it is relates itself to the needs of the nonwhite woman nor does it relate to what we know must be done for ourselves in order to be free.

In conclusion, I would like to quote from Eldridge Cleaver's book, SOUL ON ICE, a passage which I think says appropriately what it is Black men and women are striving for in our movement to be a free and liberated people:

"Black woman, without asking how, just say that we survived our forced march and travail through the Valley of Slavery, Suffering, and Death---there, that Valley beneath us hidden by that drifting mist! And we had thought that our hard climb out of that cruel valley led to some cool, green, and peaceful, sunlit place -- but it's all jungle here, a wild and savage wilderness that's overrun with ruins.

But Put on your crown, my Queen, and we will build a NEW CITY on these ruins."

REFLECTIONS ON BLACK CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

by JACKIE WRIGHT

Over centuries of blood, decades of toil and years of disgust, the Black man has said, "I just want to be free!" Civil Disobedience entails for the Black man aspects of the humanity of Thoreau, the moral strength of King and the violent tradition of our American society. The Black man has come the full route - from unconcern, to mild concern, to deep concern, to gentle protest, to marching, to moral outrage, to increasing vigorous protest to... civil disobedience. Here lies a paradox of the ages, this man breaks the law for the sake of the law, he defies society out of loving concern for society. Black America has evolved to a point now where he is ready to take his unalienable rights, "by any means necessary."

Oppressed people cannot remain oppressed forever. A thirst for freedom eventually manifests itself, this is what has happened to the Black American. We are revolting against our lack of control over our own lives. We feel purchased, possessed and exploited by, "white money power." The stores, houses and institutions of our community are owned by whites. Black men lack the economic and political power to directly bring about an effective change. It is up to the individual to commit himself to the mass and vice versa so that change inevitably must come about. If that vehicle of change be the disregard of unjust law, the use of nonviolence as a tactic or a path to topple the government itself, the end will justify the means.

Civil disobedience and nonviolence are by no means synonymous. This tactic of nonviolence holds an entire chapter in the struggle of Black America. Nonviolence may have died in spirit with its leading proponent, Dr. Martin Luther King, who, significantly enough, was struck down by an assassin's bullet. Dr. King was a Christ-like personification of truth, love and justice, whose doctrines helped awaken the Black man to his present, "stride toward freedom." Our King has the sparks to kindle the souls of millions behind his moral cause underlay with notions of love and brotherhood. His conceptions of civil disobedience are: "One has not only a legal but a moral duty to obey just laws; conversely one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws." A tactic only survives as long as it works. Dr. King himself wrote, "We have waited more than 340 years for our constitutional and God given rights. The nations of Africa and Asia are moving with jrtlike speed toward gaining political independence but we still creep at horse and buggy pace toward gaining a cup of coffee at a lunch counter." Civil disobedience must move on as a constant principle and Black values have an urgency to be expressed in this lifetime.

Regardless of Dr. King's magnificent vision, the truth is that we do live in a violent society, testified to by the martyring of a Black hero such as he. Black people are no more pacifistic than whites, particularly, imbedded in the ethics of both races are the notions that, "the big fist wins" and that "the bigger they are the harder they fall," even "might makes right."

Violence is a way of life in America today. Children, Black and white, get their first whitewashing on violence by television cartoons. For example, Mighty Mouse slouts the villain dressed in black and the Road Runner always outwits the coyote.

We have come to think of civil disobedience in its classical terms of humane devotion to right. It is also definitely civil disobedience when Angela Davis, Eldridge Cleaver, Huey Newton and countless other Blacks are willing to become political prisoners on the grounds that they have performed their moral responsibility. That responsibility, to violently resist a government which tends to oppress men and protect its 'white house values,' values built on the pearly white foundations of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, but if you look closely you'll see on the cornerstone, 'for whites only.'

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continued

The Black man has come the full route into civil disobedience. Yes, white America we do want essentially the same rights your forefathers were granted after they won their violent revolution. We are asking for no more than those inalienable moral justices you promised after we became citizens of your United States in 1865. Black America is only asking for some of the same "democracy" you so willingly spread throughout the world. Black people have right on their side, if it takes an eternity or our extermination we will have our freedom through civil disobedience. Furthermore, white America, before we allow you to continually perpetrate your violence on Black men of dignity, we will watch your white pillars of government crumble into the Potomac.

DICK GREGORY, A MAN OF HIS TIME

by Charmaine Thomas

The room was noisy, tension-filled the air, then the guest of honor appeared. He was lead in by Clay Collier, Program Council Chairman, and the guest was none other than Dick Gregory. He was applauded even before he approached the platform. When one looks at Gregory, you see a frail man with beautiful Black features. Gregory is a man that expresses what he feels. He feels it like it was, like it is, and the way it should be. He does this in many forms: comedy, politically, or whatever. He'll use any means to get across his message.

Gregory opened up the session with humor about Nixon and Agnew but mostly Agnew. He told the youth of today to be cautious because Agnew started out normal like the rest of us, but look at him now--"the man is dumb!" When Gregory spoke about how America has changed so many people's lives by inserting laws into our society and forcing them down our throats to live by, but is this really living? Gregory gave a few examples showing how we are forced to live. He said that if he wanted to walk outside naked, he would be arrested for indecent exposure. Gregory was really rapping on indecent exposure and was ready to get down on the law issue when a heckler interrupted him and said "What laws, be specific!". Everyone was shocked, the room became silenced, but Gregory remained cool he took his time, and answered, "Baby, give me a chance, I've just started". All the heckler could do was to answer in a more controlled tone of "Yes, take your time." Gregory did take his time and in doing so expressed what so many of the youth were eager to hear. Gregory told the youth of today that they really have a job to do cleaning up their America. Especially in finding out the truth about drugs, cigarettes, money, sex, and many other things that are involved in our life. "Why can't America be truthful?", Gregory stated, "Since the Blacks have refused to be the white man's nigger any longer and has finally taken two steps ahead, the white man gave the role to his white youth. As soon as this statement left his lips, someone asked, "What are we supposed to do as the new niggers?" Gregory said, "First of all, you get blamed for things you did and didn't do and placed in a level lower than a dog."

Gregory gave many comments on different issues. I chose these few to enlighten my people on how powerful one man can be once he finds out who he is and for what cause he stands. In my opinion, this man is the most informative I've heard in years. He could do so much for the world, but as we know, this can't happen, because America isn't ready for a change. Brothers and Sisters we need more spokesmen and leader of Brother Gregory's caliber in our quest for unity and search for identity.

ALL THAT JIVE

by James English

The people are walking and talking all that jive
Such language will boil your brain alive.

Ghetto language that's what it is
the most unusual language to foreign ears.

You hear it spoken outside the slum.
What it means you can't understand.

Don't confuse your brain you'll never
get it because you don't live in ghettoland.

You think they're talking about their women
but, its more than that.

Those Ghetto young men really have something
to rap.

Listen to the talk. They know what's going down.

In the ghetto and around the town

The language has a double meaning and
if you're really hip

You don't need a dictionary to understand
the words rolling off their lips.

Brother Leaves Us

Brother John McBurrows
one of the pioneers of
Black Studies will be
graduating at the end
of this quarter. We
wish you luck, John in
all your endeavors.

Watani Staff

I would like to extend my personal gratitude to the entire Watani staff
for their dedication and hard work throughout the year and for making the last
edition of this quarter one of the best we have ever put out. Brothers and Sisters
thank you so much.

Esther Doss, Editor

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